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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/530,716	04/08/2005	Matthew Hague	608-453	6892

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NIXON & VANDERHYE, PC
901 NORTH GLEBE ROAD, 11TH FLOOR
ARLINGTON, VA 22203

EXAMINER

VANOY, TIMOTHY C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1754

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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08/02/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/530,716	HAGUE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art-Unit	
	Timothy C. Vanoy	1754	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 April 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 17-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 17-36 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☒ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>Apr. 8, 2005, Oct. 31, 2005</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

- a) Receipt is acknowledged of papers filed under 35 U.S.C. 119 (a)-(d) based on an application filed in Great Britain on Oct. 8, 2002. Applicant has not complied with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.63(c), since the oath, declaration or application data sheet does not acknowledge the filing of any foreign application. A new oath, declaration or application data sheet is required in the body of which the present application should be identified by application number and filing date.
- b) Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Oath/Declaration

The oath or declaration is defective. A new oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.67(a) identifying this application by application number and filing date is required. See MPEP §§ 602.01 and 602.02.

The oath or declaration is defective because it does not set forth that this application is a 371 filing of PCT/GB03/04052 filed on Sept. 23, 2003, and the oath or declaration does not claim benefit of the foreign priority document UK 0223300.5 filed on Oct. 8, 2002. It appears that the applicants merely submitted the same oath in the parent application (i. e. PCT/GB03/04052) for this national stage application, but it is not clear if this proper.

Specification

- a) Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

Art Unit: 1754

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. **It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length** since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

The abstract in this application exceeds 150 words and is, therefore, too long.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

None of the claims have been rejected under either 35USC102 or 35USC103 because all of the applicants' independent claims have limited the catalyst to include tin, and this limitation is not taught or suggested in U. S. Pat. 4,299,800 (one of the more relevant pieces of prior art in this application). Additionally, the applicants' specification has provided surprising and unexpected benefits attributed to the presence of tin in the applicants' catalyst, as set forth on pg. 23 lns. 6-9 in the applicants' specification in comparing the results of applicants' Example 12 (which uses a catalyst that contains the claimed tin) to the results of applicants' Comparative Example 6 (which uses a catalyst that does not contain the claimed tin). The applicants' tin-containing catalyst of Example 12 was able to remove much more oxygen than the tin-free catalyst of Comparative Example 6.

Art Unit: 1754

The following references are made of record:

U. S. Pat. 5,907,076 disclosing a process for the selective separation of hydrogen and carbon monoxide from olefinic hydrocarbons;

U. S. Pat. 4,734,273 disclosing a process for the selective removal of trace amounts of oxygen from gases;

U. S. Pat. 4,105,588 disclosing the preparation of copper and silver particles for ethylene purification;

U. S. Pat. 3,549,719 disclosing a process for the purification of olefins;

U. S. Pat. 3,305,597 disclosing a process for the removal of oxygen and acetylenic contaminants from gaseous olefins;

U. S. Pat. 2,849,515 disclosing the removal of oxygen from unsaturated hydrocarbons;

U. S. Pat. 2,351,167 disclosing the removal of oxygen from normally gaseous olefins, and

U. S. Pat. 1,911,780 disclosing a method for removing hydrogen from hydrocarbon gases via reaction with oxygen mixed into the gas (please see pg. 1 lns. 32-41).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Timothy C. Vanoy whose telephone number is 571-272-8158. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8-4:30.

Art Unit: 1754

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stanley Silverman, can be reached on 571-272-1358. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Timothy C Vandy
Timothy C Vandy
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1754

tcv